

THE
Library Journal

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE

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VOL. III. NO. 4.

JUNE, 1878.

Contents:

	Page		Page
THE PLAN OF THE NEW "POOLE'S INDEX": A Library Symposium— <i>S. B. Noyes, Justin Winsor, F. B. Perkins, J. L. Whitney, J. Schwartz, W. J. Fletcher, C. A. Cutter</i>	141	THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS SITE	156
EDITORIAL NOTES:	150	THE DIANA ENAMORADA OF MONTEMAYOR— <i>J. L. Whitney</i>	158
The Symposium—The System of the Index—A Practical Application—Library Vacations—Mr. Nicholson's Retirement.		LIBRARY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS— <i>Justin Winsor</i>	159
UNITED KINGDOM ASSOCIATION:	153	MANILA PAPER IN LIBRARIES— <i>Melvill Dewey</i>	159
Fourth Monthly Meeting.		COMMUNICATIONS:	160
THE INDEX SOCIETY	154	The Standard of Library Service—Excerpts.	
POOLE'S INDEX IN ENGLAND	155	BIBLIOGRAPHY	161
A SOUTHERN LIBRARY CONFERENCE	155	PSEUDONYMS AND ANONYMS	162
		NOTES AND QUERIES	164
		GENERAL NOTES	165
		PUBLISHERS' NOTE	166

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OF THE
CONFERENCE OF LIBRARIANS,

Held in London, October, 1877. Edited by the Secretaries of the Conference,

EDWARD B. NICHOLSON, Librarian of the London Institution, and
HENRY R. TEDDER, Librarian of the Athenæum Club.

It contains the 30 papers by the most eminent librarians upon the most important library subjects, as published in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for November and December, 140 p.; an Introduction by HENRY R. TEDDER, Librarian of the Athenæum Club, and an Appendix containing the following important and interesting matter:

A P P E N D I X.

APPENDIX TO PAPERS AND DISCUSSIONS:

- I. Specimen of a Dictionary-Catalogue of Works on Mental Philosophy. By JAMES M. ANDERSON.
- II. Specimens of the Sheet-Catalogues used in the Glasgow University Library (1 and 2).
- III. Form of Catalogue-Card proposed by Cornelius Walford.
- IV. List of Subjects of Works in the British Museum library according to the Arrangement of books upon the Shelves. By RICHARD GARNETT.
- V. Notes on Bookbinding. By Mr. BIRDSALL, of Northampton.
- VI. Regulations for the conduct of visitors to the Melbourne Public Library.
- VII. Note on the Literary Resources of Victoria. By SIR REDMOND BARRY.
- VIII. Specimens of Form and Account-Books used in the Circulation of books in the library of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, London.
- IX. Conditions upon which books are lent by the trustees of the Melbourne Public Library to other institutions.
- X. Statistics relative to the Melbourne Public Library, including the lending department.
- XI. Report on Poole's Index to Periodical Literature. Presented by a delegation of the American-Library Association.
- XII. The Post-card-System of Ordering books at the London Institution.
- XIII. Note on the term "Free Library." By SIR REDMOND BARRY.
- XIV. Duties of a Librarian. By the Rev. Dr. SAMUEL R. MAITLAND, sometime librarian to the Archbishop of Canterbury.
- XV. Rough List of some leading subjects connected with Library Formation and Management. Prepared by EDWARD B. NICHOLSON, for the Organizing Committee.

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THE EXHIBITION OF LIBRARY DESIGNS, CATALOGUES, AND APPLIANCES. By EDWARD B. NICHOLSON.

SPEECHES AT THE DINNER GIVEN TO THE CONFERENCE BY THE LORD MAYOR. By the Lord Mayor, John Winter Jones, Léopold Delisle, Professor Justin Winsor, Baron Otto De Watteville, William F. Poole, and Melvil Dewey.

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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL.

THE PLAN OF THE NEW "POOLE'S INDEX."

A LIBRARY SYMPOSIUM.

I fully agree with those who think that we need something better in an index to periodical literature than a merely "haphazard alphabetical arrangement" of minute and fragmentary entries for each and every kind of subject, but I am quite as hostile to schemes based upon general ideas of systematic classification, without any proper alphabetical arrangement, and lacking a precise, complete, and easily-understood system of cross-references. The last edition of "Poole's Index" I would give as an illustration of the former evil, the *Table analytique* of the index volume of the *Revue des Deux Mondes* as a specimen of the latter fault. Yet, as I understand Mr. Poole's letter in the May number of the JOURNAL, he still adheres to the method, or want of method, of the old Index, when he asserts that classification is expressly prohibited in the preparation of the new Index. In my opinion we *do* need to introduce *some* element of classification into so important a work. The thing is perfectly feasible, and would, I am confident, give great satisfaction to those who are to use the work. Assuming what I believe to be the fact that the much larger part of the Index will be made up of entries under the names of persons, of such entries as ought properly to be placed under the names of countries, and of entries under the first word of the title, there will still remain a large mass of subject-matter entries, which ought to be arranged under their generic subject-headings, and not primarily under the most special heading. Some instances of this sort are given in the Committee's Rules for Indexing, as when it is directed that criticisms on H. C. Carey's "Past, Present, and Future" shall be entered under Political Economy, though the work is by no means a systematic treatise on that subject, and much less so the average critical notices of such works. The present tendency to accumulate a vast array of incongruous subdivisions of all the varied departments of science and literature under the name of such country or place as happens to figure in the title appears to me to carry with it great practical inconveniences. In the old edition of "Poole's Index" the entries placed under England make six pages, while those under Fine Arts make less than half a page; those under Political Economy make just a page, those on Logic about one-third of a column, Natural History less than a column, Natural Philosophy and Physical Science, and Science in general, less than a page. Now, if I have to dispose of articles upon the "Substitution of Similars," the "Quantification of the Predicate," Mr. Poole tells me that "classification is expressly forbidden," and I must put them under the most specific heading. What are in these cases the most specific headings. Do the Rules for Indexing fully sustain this dictum? I think not. It appears to me that

the whole question of arrangement is purely a practical one, such as the editors of every encyclopedia have to meet, and I believe that a set of headings could easily be prepared by three or four experts, which would prove of very great utility, not only to the co-workers but to the editor-in-chief. I would instance Political Economy as a subject-heading that might, with great benefit, include numerous topics, which, although they frequently receive separate treatment, are nevertheless discussed in most systematic treatises. All such topics as free trade, protection, value, currency, money, bi-metallism, banking, finance, should either remain sub-divisions of Political Economy, or should be remanded to their independent locations, *only after the proper cross-references have been made out*. In either case the material ought to reach the chief editor under the subject-heading and the special heading; thus only, with all the material before him, can he render an intelligent decision as to whether it is advisable to adopt a policy of scatteration or one of concentration. As hinted above, the space occupied by the entries under a given comprehensive heading might not infrequently decide whether the particulars should be scattered or not. At all events, matters relating to such subjects as Architecture, Astronomy, Birds, Botany, Drama, Education, Epigrams, Government and Politics (apart from the workings of the constitution or government of particular countries), Language, Law, Literature, Physics, Political Economy, Proverbs, Social Science, Theology and Useful Arts, should be entered under these or equivalent headings, instead of at hap-hazard under names of such countries or places as happen to occur in the title. Mr. Cutter, in his catalogue of the Boston Athenæum, found all his unequalled capacity for methodical arrangement very fully tasked to dispose of the subject-matters which he places under Eng-

land, English and Great Britain, and covering in all 84 double-columned pages of that great work; and under Germany there are some 30 general divisions of subject-matter, some of which again require further sub-division. Now, if the literary and artistic sub-divisions had been arranged under their respective generic subject-headings, qualified by the subordinate geographical division, would not his task, difficult at the best, have been greatly lightened, with a proportionate increase in the facility of reference. Is it not the experience of every cataloguer that it is a matter of some difficulty to arrange in a simple and intelligible way, under the names of leading countries, even the sub-divisions incident to History, Description and Travel, Statistics, Institutions and Public Documents (last but not least), without dragging in everything of a literary, artistic and scientific character that has any connection with a country?

Mr. Poole's apprehensions as to the work being mainly a book of cross-references, should any attempt be made to connect related subjects, appears to me ill-grounded. If well chosen, cross-references will save a vast amount of needless repetition and useless expense.

With regard to tales, poems and plays, I should prefer to find them indexed under the general headings Fiction, Poetry, and Drama or Plays, believing that such an arrangement will prove generally popular.

In regard to critical notices and reviews of works of the imagination, I do not quite understand why they should be placed under the name of the author, while the work itself is placed under the first word of the title. Perhaps the author would, as a rule, prefer to have his own writings placed under his name, and not what other persons think of them. I think a criticism of a work should go with the work.

S. B. NOYES.

Mr. Noyes's views coincide with his practice in his Catalogue of the Brooklyn Library; and, notwithstanding the distinguished merits of that catalogue, my very frequent use of it would be more agreeable to me, if there was more of what he calls "scattering" in it. Nor would I go to Mr. Poole's extreme in his old edition, of entering some items under Aborigines, because that word is in the title, and others under Indians, and again separating Indian Character by various interjected headings from the general subject of Indians. Still, any policy in the abstract is likely to be departed from; and Mr. Noyes' suggestion is good that the best method of arranging the material can only be devised by the editor when he has it all in hand, and can compare the proportions of the several classifications. I am firmly for an alphabetical arrangement primarily, but with variations to meet palpable convenience. A classified system, or the mongrel alphabetic-classed system, as it is called, is practically a nuisance, and I have daily consciousness of it. Mr. Poole's strictures on it are sound. It is doubtful if a primarily classed system, with an alphabetical graft upon it, is not a case of confusion worse confounded. The only palpable convenience for a classed arrangement is a purely alphabetical index; but it is much cheaper, in every respect, to have an arrangement which carries its own index. Of course, any system got used to is manageable, but most people have no opportunities for getting used to systems, and need one requiring the least possible amount of familiarity. It is best to sacrifice peculiar advantages attained for a few to the greater good of the greater number—decidedly.

JUSTIN WINSOR.

The new "Index to Periodical Literature" is to be, as I understand it, an alphabet of single topics or subjects, by their most usual or practical names. It is not to be classified,

except so far as this selection of practical names and a careful but economical system of cross-references may be said to classify. It seems to me that this is the best plan for universal purposes.

Mr. Noyes' "personal equation" as a classificationist seems to me to have modified his suggestions, some of which, if I understand him, are beside the question. I do not understand that names of authors or of countries are to be at all as prominent as he supposes in the Index, nor that the titles of articles are to appear, unless they are appropriate as topic heads. And would not the changes which he desires result in an entirely different work from that proposed? For this it is now too late, I suppose, even if the majority of readers would prefer it; and I do not at present think they would.

I suppose, however, that a more systematic classification than Mr. Winsor seems to approve of can be used with very great advantage, and ought to be used, in the "dictionary system." I would very gladly see it used in the new Index. Indeed, I believe its adjustment and practical introduction to be one great improvement next to be made in popular cataloguing. The two rules to be used in the new Index, of selecting practical names for topics, and of a moderate use of cross-references, are in fact an approximation towards this very plan. Such a classification could therefore, I think, be used as I should wish it used, in the new Index, for it would only be a somewhat fuller application of a method already there recognized in principle. I would use it as a skeleton of classifying consistency pervading and strengthening the whole list, but nowhere showing the bones. I should proceed somewhat as follows: Draft as complete a "classification of knowledge" as may be; and for *cataloguing purposes* I think a modification of Brunet's system will be found better than a numerical one like Dewey's. Then let the

revising cataloguers or indexers have this chart by them, and whenever a question arises of choosing between or among topic-names let the chart decide. It can be used in chart shape, or after being thrown out of chart shape into alphabet shape. I suppose that a dictionary catalogue or topic index constructed with such a system well worked into it would show a better economy of synonyms and cross-classes than any yet made; and as far as I can judge, it is exactly in this point that our dictionary catalogues are weak. My idea is, that this plan would go far to develop an eclectic system that would combine more than can now be found any where together of the different merits of alphabeting and classifying. When I searched the dictionary catalogue of the Boston Public Library for works on the history and systems of Mental Philosophy, I found it necessary to think up about sixty different topics (besides such names of masters as Plato, Aristotle, etc., who designated schools of thought), before I could even approximately assemble the books of the library on the subject. It is unnecessary to prove that this is an enormous defect. And my plan would remedy it, it seems to me, by the very simple measure of having the synonyms and related topics of each important subject assembled *once, somewhere*, somewhat on the following model:

RELIGION. See also names of religions and religious teachers and systems; Bible, Christ, Christianity, Church History, Devotion, Ecclesiology, Evidences of Christianity, Future State, Holy Land, Infidelity, Inspiration, Missions, Mysticism, Mythology, Natural Theology, Prayer, Sermons, Superstition, etc.

There are not so very many such groups required, and while they could not be made exhaustive they would be a great assistance to searchers on subjects. They might even be printed all together at the beginning of the Index as a sort of key. Such a classi-

fication of knowledge as I refer to has been used for many years with a good deal of success in the New York Mercantile Library; and I have, myself, long used a fuller elaboration of it, whose ultimate sections are now nearly fine enough to break down into the manageable handfuls which could be distributed at once into their alphabetical places in a dictionary catalogue or index.

Although this argument of mine refers as much to a dictionary catalogue as it does to a topical index, so it does as much *vice versa*. It is plain enough that my conclusion about the new Index is, that it is to be a great improvement on the previous editions; that it is going to embody much of just what I should have wished to put into it, and that if it could be improved further it would be by adjusting it a little more according to *my* personal equation.

FREDERIC BEECHER PERKINS.

In comparisons that have been made from time to time between the different systems of cataloguing, an ideal, perfect dictionary system has been contrasted with a classed system as imperfectly carried out, and justice has not always been done to the latter.

The reader in search of books upon the Moors in Spain does not find in Professor Abbot's Harvard College Catalogue any cards under that title or under Spain, but is told to look for Moorish History under the heading History, with its division Spain, and its sub-division Moorish Conquest, and for Moorish Art to look under the proper sub-division, Fine Arts. Here he will find all that the library possesses on these subjects with the advantage of having brought before him in one place works on the history and art of all nations, many of which may be of great service to him, and which might be overlooked in a catalogue compiled after the dictionary system. Unless, however, such a cata-

logue has a multitude of cross-references it will be comparatively useless, except to the few who have mastered its intricate scheme. In the dictionary system, unless reference is made under the Moors in Spain to other works under the titles Alhambra, Cordova, Granada, Mohammedanism, Spanish Antiquities, Art, History, Language, Literature, etc., the student will find less to help him than he would in a classified catalogue. This point is further considered by Mr. Perkins.

The suggestion is a good one that the new Index to periodical literature introduce into its alphabetical system some of the features of a class system. Whether this be possible to any great extent or not the editors will wisely determine. However this may be, it is certain that there must be a generous introduction of cross-references. It is in this respect that Poole's Index and most catalogues arranged after the alphabetical system are defective. In this Index are found entries under Intellect, Intellectual Philosophy, Intellectual Science, Mental Philosophy, Mental Science, Metaphysics, Mind, Philosophy, Psychology, with many other entries under the adjectives, Mental, Intellectual, etc., with no cross-references from one to the other. Books on Intemperance are entered under Ardent Spirits, Drunkenness, Temperance and Intemperance, and there are titles under Coal and Anthracite Coal, Slavery and Anti-Slavery, Ethics and Moral Philosophy, Physics and Natural Philosophy—all without cross-references. The editors of the new edition will, no doubt, see the necessity of combining some of these entries, with the addition of the proper cross-entries, or of making cross-references from one to the other, and if deterred from doing so by lack of room, or by the expense, they will be wise enough to leave out some of the titles rather than the cross-references.

This advice may not be needed, but as Mr. Poole speaks of cross-references with an

apparent slight appreciation of their importance, and states that readers have intelligence enough to know, without being told, the subjects which are nearly related to the one in which they are interested, it seems necessary to press the point. Judging from the experience of many librarians Mr. Poole over-estimates the average wit of mankind, who, unless they are helped in the way proposed, will be sure to turn away half satisfied.

In regard to the arrangement of titles under countries in the original Index, I do not find so much cause for complaint as Mr. Noyes does, as I think his suggestions are in a measure carried out. It is here that the greatest embarrassment is likely to arise, from the great mass of titles, which in some countries will be counted by hundreds. It is evident that the loose arrangement of the old will not answer in the new Index, and that there will be a need of a minute classification. As far as possible such divisions as Fine Arts and Natural History might conveniently be put under those independent headings. This arrangement will be more convenient for reference, and will bring together all the articles on the art and natural history of various countries. This, which was the plan of the original Index, will, no doubt, in the new edition be further elaborated.

In the Card Catalogue of the Boston Public Library there are about 5000 cards under the United States, arranged under some one hundred and seventy divisions. This rapidly accumulating collection, with all the helps given by guide-boards, is perplexing. Without such subdivision it would be a trackless wilderness. It may be found necessary to follow the same plan in this catalogue which is proposed for the new Index.

JAMES L. WHITNEY.

Mr. Poole's statement of his "plan" seems to me very unsatisfactory, and leaves the subject just about where it was before.

The objections of Mr. Biscoe and others are not removed or even alluded to, and where we might have expected some statement of the course to be pursued with reference to synonymous headings, cross-reference, and capitalization (which by the way is to be on the same system or rather want of system used in the old Index), we have nothing but vague allusions to the "alphabetical system," and equally vague denunciations of "classification." *

The subject he selects to show the superiority of the alphabetical arrangement is Tobacco—a somewhat unfortunate choice, inasmuch as Prof. Abbot has shown, by means of this same subject, that all classes of enquirers will be better suited by an alphabetico-classed arrangement of similar concrete topics.

Mr. Poole says, "The fatal defect of every classified arrangement is that nobody understands it except the person who made it." This is scarcely a fair statement. Almost every "classified arrangement" I have seen contains a preliminary outline or skeleton which will enable any one to understand it—especially if he uses "the best quality of brains he possesses." But, it may be urged, bibliographers differ in their systems of classification. So do systems of phonography, book-keeping, cookery, and legislation. Does this lessen the value of the instruction in these several arts to those who have studied them? There is no royal road to learning, and any system which pretends to dispense with the necessity of *some* thought is only a delusion and a snare.

Mr. Poole further says, "The alphabetical arrangement is so simple that the stupidest mortal can understand it *without*

* Mr. Poole was not responsible for the use of the word "plan," which occurred in the heading given editorially to his paper; in fact, we learn that he deprecates its application to his article, which presented, as he writes us, not the plan, but suggestions as to some features of it. We offer apology accordingly.—EDS.

any explanation." Can he? Does he know "without any explanation" that he must look under North Pole, Polar Sea, Beechy and other headings, if he wants to get at the literature of Arctic Exploration? Or that he must look under more general heads if he does not find what he wants under the special head? Or that if he does not meet with success in England, he must look under the adjectives English and British, to say nothing of Great Britain? Or that he will find a subject entered at one time under its country, another time under its subject, and some time under both, or worse still under neither?

On the other hand have the unfortunate specialists, who do not come under the class of "stupid mortals," for whose especial benefit the "alphabetical system," in the form advocated by Mr. Poole, seems to have been devised, no rights which he is bound to respect? Must the geologist or chemist, the theologian or politician, wade through the *thousand and one* special heads from alpha to omega, into which every comprehensive class can be decomposed, before he gains a clear knowledge of the resources of periodical literature in his special field of study? We may ask with Mr. Poole, "Who would take this trouble?"

If we *must* have the alphabetical (or rather dictionary) arrangement, let us have it in its perfection as developed by a Cutler, and not in its infancy as advocated by Mr. Poole. Let us have *some* system of using intelligibly one out of the innumerable synonymous words that can be used for many subjects, and not arbitrarily select one at random, and place each subject as fancy dictates. Let us have the titles under each head arranged by their authors, and not in the unsatisfactory system pursued in the old Index.

For my part, however, I am strongly in favor of a union of the two rival systems, the alphabetical and the classified, and

would recommend some plan similar to that of Mr. Noyes or the Congress Library. The alphabetic-classed system is just as intelligible and self-explanatory as the dictionary, as scientific and complete as the classed, and as elastic as either, and will meet the wants of both the specialist and the general reader, and may be safely tried by the standard of *stupidity* which, it seems, we must keep in constant view in cataloguing.

J. SCHWARTZ.

Of course there is now no question as to the new Index between the alphabetical and the classified systems of arrangement. The system of alphabetical arrangement of subject headings (conformed to original titles as far as may be) has been chosen by the Committee, and their choice is unquestionably wise. While all agree in this, there seems to be a somewhat widespread desire among librarians that the class system shall be engrafted on the alphabetical one, either by a complete or a partial combination of the two, or by a class-system of cross references. Has it occurred to the advocates of these modifications of the alphabetical system that they are one and all *additions* to it, and not proper modifications of it, and that the great question about the Index is whether it can be kept within the limits of a convenient volume? Any plan which will provide for increased facility of reference without requiring additional space would certainly be welcomed by the editors and the Committee, but none of the methods of incorporating something of classification into the Index which have yet been suggested meet this prime requirement. Till such a method is brought forward, the question is how far it will pay to increase the size of the work and its consequent expense (and, I might add, the consequent hopelessness of the issue of supplementary volumes) for the sake of introducing classifi-

cation? It has been intimated by the Committee from the first that cross-references would be more freely used than in the old edition, and I understand Mr. Poole that this is his view. Mr. Schwartz makes a comparison which is hardly fair, between the perfection of the "dictionary arrangement . . . as developed by a Cutter, and" the same thing "in its infancy as advocated by Mr. Poole." Apparently he overlooks the fact that the dictionary arrangement (which means, in Mr. Cutter's catalogue and in his rules, an arrangement under author and subject, perhaps also title, thrown into one alphabet, and which is thus practically the same thing as Mr. Noyes's "alphabetic-classed" system), is not at all the system proposed for the Index. As I understand the plan of the Index, it contemplates a single entry under subject and that alone, except as it may be found necessary to index one article under two subjects, or make cross-references. Here is certainly a distinction with a difference.

If what I have said is to the point, the practical question before us is simply as to the extent to which cross-references shall be used.

I think Mr. Perkins is pretty "level-headed" on this matter, but, after all, I can hardly believe that it will pay to give space in the Index to the "groups" of cross-references he suggests. A little manual (or perhaps it would be a big one) of such references would make a most convenient hand-book if published separately, and we owe Mr. Poole thanks for the suggestion. But its usefulness would be principally in connection with catalogues of books, and not with "Poole's Index." The reader of books is apt to want such finger-posts pointing from the centre of a general subject to its various suburbs; but the consulter of periodical literature, in nine cases out of ten, is after a monograph on some special

subject. How often will a person who wants a paper on Mohammedanism, the Bible, Future State, Missions, Prayer, etc., look under Religion? Mr. Schwartz shares keenly in the distress of the specialist who must "wade through the *thousand and one* special heads . . . before he gains a clear knowledge of the resources," etc. I think the specialist who wants the Index to give him a tabulated statement of the resources of periodical literature, deserves just as much consideration at the hand of the indexer, as the man who wants to see a list of all the people who live on Washington Street does of the directory-maker.

A close study of the practical usefulness and use of the old edition of Poole, has given me a pretty clear idea of the proper rules and limitations for cross-references in the new edition. I am not yet prepared to put these rules and limitations into shape, but I am prepared to say that I think they would exclude all attempts to introduce something like a system of classification through the means of cross-references.

May I lengthen this already too long "piece," to refer to the singular confusion in the editorial columns of the JOURNAL for May and in Mr. Schwartz's article above as to "synonymous headings"? The JOURNAL seems to have wished that Mr. Poole had issued instructions by which indexers could tell under what head to put each article on synonymous subjects. How could he have done this without instancing each case, and thus making a volume of instructions almost as large as the Index will be?

Of course, each indexer will place articles on "Burying-grounds, Cemeteries, or Grave-yards" under one or the other of these headings, as they seem to him to require. The editors will find a batch of titles under each, and they will hardly wish to "arbitrarily select one at random,

and place each subject as fancy dictates." (This is Mr. Schwartz's language, but he seems to mean something different by it.) They will rather allow each article to stand under the subject-heading given by its author, and make cross-references from each to the others. When it is purely a question of nomenclature, as between Physics and Natural Philosophy, they will choose one, and merely cross-refer from the other. But this whole matter belongs to the editors and not to the indexers.

WILLIAM I. FLETCHER.

There is a deceptive glamour about a well-executed scheme of systematic classification that fascinates at first, but the method when applied to indexes yields unsatisfactory results. The alphabetical author-table of the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, for instance, is very useful; the classed subject-table is as nearly as possible useless—not because what one wants is not there in its proper place, but because it takes too long to find it. When Mr. Poole says that "nobody understands a classified arrangement except the person who made it," he does not mean that nobody could understand it after study. But he prefers a system which can be understood without study. The arrangement of the letters in the alphabet is such a system, because, unnatural as it is, it has been already learned at school by everybody, and almost everybody can apply it without further instruction or conscious effort; one does not have to learn it over again every time he takes up a catalogue. When the classifiers shall agree upon any system to be taught in the common-schools, so that it can become part of the mental furniture of the nation, we can use that in indexes instead of the irrational alphabet. But in the mean time all the discussion of the comparative merits of the two methods resolves itself into this: The books designed for ready reference

ought to be alphabetically arranged ; the books designed for thorough and leisurely study ought to be classified. Now nine tenths of the persons who are likely to use Poole's Index will be seeking somewhat in a hurry for answers to specific questions ; and many persons will use it seldom enough to forget in the intervals any complexity of arrangement. A minority might be better served by classification, but the greatest good of the greatest number would not be promoted thereby ; and as it is not designed for the geologist, the zoologist, the chemist, and, indeed, expressly excludes the periodicals devoted to geology, zoology, chemistry, those specialists have no rights which the author is bound to respect at the expense of the general public. Another objection to any radical change is that the work would no longer be *Poole's Index*, which is what we undertook to complete.

A systematically classed index, then, is out of the question, but the proposition of Messrs. Noyes and Schwartz is less objectionable,—to get the good of both methods by using each in that range of subjects where it is most applicable ; that is, to arrange proper names and concrete subjects alphabetically, and to intersperse among them, still alphabetically, the various arts and sciences, each forming a group of subjects alphabetically sub-arranged. Such a plan would combine the power of quickly finding all those things which most people want to find—persons, places, events—with the opportunity for a bird's-eye view of certain branches of knowledge, whose separate parts are not so likely to be independently inquired for or are most commonly thought of in connection with the class. We should gain too in those cases the chance of assisting the ignorant or forgetful or puzzled inquirer who does not know exactly what he wants, who gets poor help from a mere dictionary, because his vague

knowledge cannot guide him straight to the right heading, although it might easily lead him to the right class where a little search will set him right.

It is a very pretty project (not a new one, by the way), and I should like to see it tried by somebody else. I should not envy the editor. I fear his choice of classes would not suit anybody, even himself, and I am sure that those who used the Index would often be perplexed by doubt whether any given subject was subordinated or treated independently. Copious references would prevent any serious evil, and synonyms would give no more annoyance than in the dictionary system, except that here there would be all the trouble of synonyms under each class plus the difficulty of determining the class. This proposal is much better suited to the catalogue of a complete library than to an index like this, which only grazes on the sciences. The proposed class-lists would only show how poor the Index was in material of that sort, and would be only a disappointment to the specialist. But there would be just enough departure from the simple alphabetical plan to bother the much larger class of general readers and the specialists who were seeking for occasional information in some other specialty. Even the separate entry of Fiction, Drama, and Poetry is of very doubtful expediency ; I am very sceptical as to the existence of any number of persons who would want to study or use those kinds of the periodical literature as a whole, and I do not see how a separate list would help one to find any single play or novel. The list would be too long for a man to look wholly through, if he had forgotten a name. Any such separation is in itself an evil, for the necessity of thinking every time in what part of the volume one is to look is annoying, and the certainty of often looking first in the wrong place, as one is certain

to do frequently, is a fruitful cause of annoyance.

But if the general plan of the Index should be retained, the details ought to be improved. The old edition is decidedly unsatisfactory. I know from my own experience, from watching others' use of it, and from complaints that have been made to me, that it has not unfrequently failed to answer questions that it might reasonably have been expected to answer. No one doubts that, even though not perfect, it has been of immense service, and that the circumstances under which it was prepared—a first attempt, by one man—were a sufficient justification of its imperfection ; but they are no justification whatever for making a new Index equally faulty ; for though the material to be dealt with has increased fivefold, the workers have increased fiftyfold. Indeed the increase of matter makes an improved method all the more necessary.

The defects of the Index were : (a) the entry of precisely similar subjects under several different heads ;* (b) the failure, with trifling exceptions, to refer from one of these heads to the other or others ;† (c) the failure to assist the inquirer by suggesting other headings of a similar character under which a man might find matter to his purpose ;‡ (d) the occasional

* As Gardening and Horticulture and Landscape Gardening, Animals and Zoology, Insects and Entomology, Fishes and Ichthyology, Language and Languages and Philology, Abolition and Anti-slavery, Polar Sea and North Pole. And it is proposed to continue this method of entry in the new edition, if I understand the assistant-editor, Mr. Fletcher, aright.

† Thus there are no references between the synonyms cited above.

‡ A man who was interested in the Poor would certainly like to read about Ragged Schools. The student of Paris can hardly afford to pass by the Quartier Latin. If it was of any use to put under the Middle Ages articles on the Philosophical Investigations of the Middle Ages and on the Philosophy and Poetry, it would be of use to let the

failure to enter in full or by reference articles treating of two subjects, or likely to be sought under either of two names, under both of the headings.*

Now for a very considerable number of subjects classification on the worst system could not have been more inconvenient than this, nor more destructive of the very object of the Index—ready reference. When one has not only to look in two or three places to find what one wants, but has to rack one's brain to know where to look, one is not a whit better off than if one had to puzzle through the Brunet or the Jefferson scheme ; one is not half so well off as if one had an alphabetical index guiding directly to a judicious classified arrangement. We hear much in this connection about the stupidity of the public ; but it is not stupid to be unable to think in a hurry of all the synonyms of the first word that happens to come into one's head (for possession is nine points of the law of mental action), or to think of all the subdivisions of a comprehensive subject, and of all the classes which include the topic one is studying. Yet the including classes may furnish a man with much better material than he will find under the specific head. The cataloguer or indexer himself, with much more time at his command, cannot think of all these without an effort, and even with effort may not succeed in including everything.

The more I make and the more I use catalogues, the more I feel that it be reader know that he would find under Scholastic an article on the Scholastic Philosophy of the Middle Ages.

* Thus there is nothing under Almaden or Idria, though there are articles on the Silver mines in Almaden and the Quicksilver mines in Idria. I may add that the examples in these four notes were not painfully searched out, but were met with in an examination of less than half an hour. They are not occasional oversights, but a few of the many results of the system.

comes the cataloguer to take infinite pains to make everything perfectly clear, and that it is his highest as it is his hardest duty to foresee and provide against the perplexities of the reader.

Every one was sorry to see from Mr. Poole's article that he fails to attach sufficient importance to the careful, thorough, systematic preparation of cross-references. Without them the Index will be half maimed, and its users blind ; it will not be even a good dictionary index. With them it will have most of the merits of classification. The advocates of the latter form, to be sure, strenuously deny this, and I admit that there is wanting something of the luxurious ease afforded by their method ; but the result is about the same, if people will take a little pains to run over the references and look up, not by any means every one, but whatever seems likely to be of use. The minority of thorough scholars ought not to complain, provided they are furnished with the references to look over. But so much they have a right to demand. And they will not be provided with what they want by the editor's putting in a reference here and there, when it happens to occur to him, as the work is going through the press. In regard to a number of well-known synonyms, it ought to be determined beforehand which shall be taken. To avoid the chance of the retention of others, there should be, as Mr. Perkins proposes, a regular scheme of classification, a hierarchy of the sciences, and each subject heading in the Index should be inserted in its proper place there. When that was done we should have a complete chart of the territory covered, and it would be easy to see what was the relation of each part to its neighbors, to choose the references which will bind the different parts of the Index together and make it one systematic whole. If the object were to make the Index as cheaply

as possible all this work would be out of the question ; but my predecessors have written, and I think the co-operators are working on the supposition that it was intended to make it as good as possible. Nothing less could have aroused their zeal to the degree which Mr. Poole's report implies.

One other matter should be mentioned, the desirableness of having some degree of uniformity in the selection of headings, and a correspondence of one part of the Index with another. There are various points to be considered by the editor. Shall he, for instance, use mostly abstract forms or concrete—Entomology or Insects ; shall he use popular or scientific names,—Butterflies or Lepidoptera ; shall he put articles on the history of any art or science in a country under the art or science, with local subdivisions, or under the country, with subject subdivisions, or under both heads when there is only one such article ? It is not perhaps of great practical importance that there should be an absolute uniformity in the choice of headings ; indeed it would probably be inexpedient to carry out any system rigidly ; yet some degree of uniformity is as helpful as it is pleasing ; and the settlement of the rival claims of countries and other subjects is absolutely necessary. Red tape is bad, but the rule of thumb is sometimes more oppressive. And as Mr. Poole's article certainly gives the impression that he is rather indifferent to all such things, and as all his published catalogues strengthen that impression, it is not out of place to respectfully urge that these points be all carefully considered. If the work were his alone, it would be impertinent to say anything beforehand. We could only criticize it when completed. But surely co-operators have a right to make suggestions. We should rebel against taxation without representation.

C: A. CUTTER.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL.

JUNE, 1878.

Communications for the JOURNAL, and all inquiries concerning it, should be addressed to MELVIL DEWEY, 32 Hawley Street, Boston. Also library catalogues, reports, regulations, sample blanks, and other library appliances.

Remittances and orders for subscriptions and advertisements should be addressed to F. LEYFOLDT, P. O. Box 4295, New York. Remittances should be made by draft on New York, P. O. order, or registered letter.

Exchanges and editors' copies should be addressed to THE LIBRARY JOURNAL, 37 Park Row, New York.

The JOURNAL addresses itself exclusively to library interests, admitting to its advertising as well as to its reading-matter columns only what concerns the librarian as librarian. It does not undertake to review books unless specially relating to library and bibliographical topics.

The Editors are not responsible for the views expressed in contributed articles or communications, nor always for the style of capitalization, etc., in signed articles.

Subscribers are entitled to advertise books wanted, or duplicates for sale and exchange, at the nominal rate of ten cents per line (regular rate, 25 cents); also to advertise for situations or assistance to the extent of five lines free of charge.

THE "symposium" on the arrangement of the new "Poole's Index" imports into library discussion a means of eliciting and comparing opinion which has been found exceedingly valuable in general literature and will be peculiarly so in the library field and as to such questions as the present. We trust to give in August a similar open debate on the printing of the British Museum catalogue and its relations to a general catalogue of English literature, and doubtless other questions from time to time will call for like treatment. Mr. Poole will possibly review the present discussion in the next issue, but the columns of the JOURNAL have for some numbers been given up so largely to questions of cataloguing and indexing that we must turn to other topics pressing for attention, and must ask others who desire to express themselves on this subject to do so in brief letters.

THE discussion develops, it we do not mistake, a general desire that, to avoid certain imperfections evident in the old Index, there should be more planning beforehand than Mr. Poole has yet undertaken, possible perhaps after the copy is in the editor's hands but necessary certainly before titles are finally assigned to their respective headings. Some draft of the lines of titles to be used would, we think, be of

assistance in guiding the individual compilers and in saving labor to the general editors, and such a draft, agreed upon by authority, might usefully serve, as we have already pointed out, as a basis of headings for other important cataloguing enterprises, whether employing the class or the dictionary system. Mr. Fletcher objects that this in itself would be a voluminous work; but, within reasonable limits, it might, to the contrary, be labor-saving. There is more difference of opinion in favor of a class catalogue system for the Index than we had supposed, but all sides would apparently be satisfied with the plan hitherto advocated by the JOURNAL, and strongly brought out by Mr. Cutter, the dictionary system, with reasonable provision for sub and cross-references, and necessary precaution against promiscuous entry under synonymous headings. This plan requires that, as a rule, a minimum of titles should go under a subject-head; that from synonymous headings one should be selected, to which cross-references should be made from those of the others likely to be consulted; that class-headings should be entered in the alphabet for the purpose of making sub-references to the specific headings under which titles would be found. These extra references, we reiterate, would require little space in comparison with their utility; we are not sure indeed but that space would be saved from the repetitious confusion of the edition of 1853.

IF "Burials," for instance, were the general term, that would cover only the articles on the general subject, or none at all; in either case, it would appear in the alphabet, with sub-references to "Cemeteries," "Cremation," names of individual cemeteries, etc. Out of the synonymous headings, "Burial-grounds," "Cemeteries," "Graveyards," etc., "Cemeteries," say, would be selected, and all articles on this specific topic would be entered under that, in its place in the general alphabet. This seems to us, despite Mr. Fletcher's argument, very desirable, at least when the matter reaches the editors' hands. Articles on individual cemeteries would be entered only under their names, with references to these names from the entry "Cemeteries." From "Burial-grounds," "Graveyards," etc., there would, finally, be cross-references to "Cemeteries." It is especially of importance that when a searcher has found his set of entries, he shall not turn away supposing he has found all on the subject, when the greater part may be hidden

under unsuspected headings to which he has no clue.

As the time of library vacations approaches, we are again reminded of the absurd practice of here and there a library which gives its librarians and assistants no rest. Even from selfish motives this is a sad mistake, for more can be done in fifty weeks than in fifty-two, if the two weeks are given to a change and rest. Public sentiment should be educated beyond the point of asking of one of its hardest working servants more continuous service than of its errand boys and clerks. Two weeks vacation without deduction from the salary is the least that the most economical board should offer.

WE regret exceedingly that Mr. E. B. Nicholson, another victim of over-work, has been compelled, under the orders of his physician, to put resolutely aside the many lines of activity in which his enthusiastic help has been so useful to the community at large, outside of his direct duties as librarian to the London Institution, and so to withdraw both from the joint-secretaryship of the United Kingdom Association and from the services he has rendered to the readers of the JOURNAL as the managing representative of British library interests. Mr. Nicholson has set a model of public-spirited enterprise, and his active aid will be missed in many fields of beneficent work. The London Institution is fortunate in that his resolution is for its benefit.

UNITED KINGDOM ASSOCIATION.

FOURTH MONTHLY MEETING.

THE fourth monthly meeting was held at 8 p.m. on June 7th, at the London Institution. Present—Mr. Robert Harrison, Treasurer, in the chair; Messrs. J. W. Bone, W. Brace, J. W. Knapman, B. K. Wheatley, W. S. W. Vaux, C. Welch, Wilson, and the Secretaries.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the following minutes of the Council were read:

1. "The Council receive with very great regret the resignation by Mr. Nicholson of his function of joint-secretary. The talent and untiring energy shown by Mr. Nicholson during his brief tenure of office make the Council extremely loth to part with so admirable a coadjutor, and they trust that his valuable assistance may continue to be given to the cause of

the Association in some manner that may make fewer calls upon his already much occupied leisure.

2. "Resolved, That Mr. Ernest C. Thomas, late librarian of the Oxford Union Society, be elected to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Nicholson."

Mr. Nicholson's letter, giving his reasons for withdrawing from the joint-secretaryship, is to the following effect:

LONDON INSTITUTION, May 23, 1878.
To the Council of the Library Association of the United Kingdom.

GENTLEMEN: I have to signify to you, very unwillingly, my resignation of the secretaryship of the Library Association, and in so doing I ask leave to state the reasons which impel me to take this step.

My duties at the London Institution, which are not confined to the direction of its two libraries, not only limit very narrowly the time which I can give to other just claims upon me, but put a considerable strain on my unfortunately nervous temperament. Besides those duties I have undertaken the joint-secretaryship of the Library Association, and the secretaryship of the Metropolitan Free Libraries Committee, and I am now forced against my will to see that I have undertaken too much. For more than a year past, long-slighted symptoms have refused to be slighted any longer, and I have been seriously warned that unless I moderate my habitual hurry and worry, permanent ruin to health will surely and speedily result. I have trifled with these warnings for some time, on the chance that the pressure of work and anxiety at the London Institution might become less constant; but this is now so far from being likely that the Institution is about to enter on an entirely new phase of development. I therefore at last feel compelled to resign my official connection both with the JOURNAL and the Association.

I know well that any service of mine was in no way necessary to the welfare of either. But I regret to abandon connections which gave me so much pleasure and pride, and I fear to risk your good opinion as a seemingly capricious deserter from duty. It is only this fear which has prompted me to trouble you with a statement which I fear you may have thought, in the reading of it, egotistical and unnecessary.

Believe me, Gentlemen,

Always most faithfully yours,

EDWARD B. NICHOLSON.

While deeply regretting the withdrawal of Mr. Nicholson, several members spoke in warm terms as to the choice of Mr. E. C. Thomas as his successor, Mr. Henry R. Tedder, librarian of the Athenæum Club, remaining, as before, his fellow-officer. Mr. Thomas was formerly librarian of the Oxford Union Society, was an energetic member of the Organizing Committee of the Conference of last October, and has always been very zealous in the progress of library work.

Mr. J. Vernon Whitaker, editor of *The Bookseller*, was proposed for election, and the following were nominated as honorary members: Sir Redmond Barry (Victoria); Christian W. Bruun (Copenhagen); Charles A. Cutter (Boston Athenæum); Léopold Delisle (Bibl. Nat.); G. Depping (Bibl. Ste. Geneviève); Melvil Dewey (LIBRARY JOURNAL); Charles Evans (Indianapolis); Hyacinthe Gariel (Grenoble); Annie R. Godfrey (Harvard Univ.); S. S. Green (Worcester); Reuben A. Guild (Providence); F. Jackson (Newton); Comte de Marsy (Compiègne); B. S. Mondino (Palermo); Cornelius B. Olmsted (Genesco); Jules Petit (Brussels); W. F. Poole (Chicago); T. P. W. Rogers (Burlington); W. L. Ropes (Andover); Octave Sachot (Paris); Alex. Sands (Cincinnati); Leopold Seligmann (Berlin); Lloyd P. Smith (Philadelphia); P. G. Thorsen (Copenhagen); J. Tingley (Alleghany Coll.); T. Vickers (Cincinnati); Baron Otto de Watteville (Paris); Justin Winsor (Harvard Univ.). These ladies and gentlemen were the American and foreign members of the London Conference, and, with two exceptions, were all present on that occasion; it was considered but fit that they should be invited to become connected with an Association at whose foundation they assisted.

A paper by Mr. W. E. A. Axon, on "The projected Universal Catalogue,"* was read by one of the secretaries, in the unavoidable absence of the author. A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Axon for his interesting communication. A discussion ensued, in the course of which two resolutions of the Committee appointed to consider the subject of a Universal Catalogue of English Literature were notified. They propose that such a catalogue should comprehend all books in English, whether printed in the United Kingdom or abroad, including pamphlets, broadsides, newspapers, and periodicals, together with translations of foreign works,

but not editions in foreign languages, even with brief English notes; and that the catalogue should be brought down to the latest date.

Mr. Nicholson exhibited and described a specimen of the card-catalogue used in the *École des Langues* at Paris, and imported by Messrs. Trübner; it was contrasted with the Bonnange system, but the feeling of the meeting was in favor of the latter. That used in the *École des Langues* consists of a shallow tray or drawer, divided in four compartments. A brass rod runs through each, passing through a hole punched at the bottom (centre) of the cards; a flap locking in front of the tray, against the ends of the rods, prevents their unauthorized removal. The apparatus presents a more elegant and finished appearance than the invention of M. Bonnange, but a drawback is the less ready manner in which the cards can be used, whether for withdrawal, insertion, or consultation.

The meeting then adjourned to July 5th.

THE INDEX SOCIETY.

At the April meeting of the Index Society, several letters were read in connection with the lists of compounders for their estates at the time of the Commonwealth, and the lists of the malignants who were not allowed to compound. It was resolved to print an index to the Royalist Confiscation Acts in Scobell's "Acts and Ordinances of the Long Parliament," to be accompanied by the Acts themselves, and an introduction. This index will form a useful companion to the Royalist Composition Papers preserved at the Record Office, which will be calendared in due course. The Committee hope to issue this Index of Royalists to the subscribers, with the secretary's historical account of index-making, as the first two books for the present year's subscription.

At the May meeting, it was announced that an index to Dugdale's "Warwickshire" had been undertaken by one of the members. It was proposed to compile from the official calendar an index of such Englishmen, Scotchmen and Irishmen as have matriculated at the University of Leyden. Reprints of the excessively rare list of those who subscribed to the defence of the country against the Spanish Armada, and of the Lists of Justices of the Peace printed in 1650 and 1660, were also suggested.

In regard to the proposed Rules for Indexing,

* We hope to give this paper in the July JOURNAL.

of which a proof for revision was sent out under date of February, Mr. Wheatley writes:

"We shall be pleased to have American opinion upon them, and also to have a copy of your rules for discussion by us. I think we ought to agree upon the main points of principle, but I fear that not being able to discuss by word of mouth we shall hardly agree upon all the details; and even did we at any one time, we should be apt to diverge afterwards. As far as I know, no rules for indexing have been published; and, although in some points these will be the same as catalogue rules, yet they differ in more. In catalogues we have to deal with the title-pages of books written by authors of all ages, nations and personal peculiarities, and the great difficulty is to bring these under one uniform system, but in indexing we have to deal with one author only at a time.

"You will see that our rules only apply to the indexes of books. We shall not draw up rules for our subject indexes, as it will be needful to arrange these variously, as may seem best in each case."

We shall hope to print these rules in the JOURNAL as soon as the revised issue appears. They would have been reprinted before, for general discussion, but for the difficulties raised by the various delays of the JOURNAL.

POOLE'S INDEX IN ENGLAND.

Mr. Poole has received the following welcome note from Dr. Coxe:

BODLEIAN LIBRARY, 14 May, 1878.

DEAR MR. POOLE: Our curators received very kindly the idea of aiding you in your work. The question that arose was simply how to do it. They quite understood how such a work must reflect beneficially on ourselves, and authorized me to undertake, consistent with our other 'pressures,' four of these periodicals you have marked, viz.: *Academy*, *Athenaeum*, *Spectator*, and *Saturday Review*. We must not clash with others, and I do not quite know how to find out who are the workers, and what their work. I have written to Edinburgh and will also write to Cambridge. I do not find that the April number of the JOURNAL is yet with us. When it arrives I shall expect to find more definite rules for carrying on the work. Believe me to be, dear Mr. Poole, yours very truly,

H. O. COXE.

VOL. III., No. 4.

A SOUTHERN LIBRARY CONFERENCE.

The following circular, recently sent out, reaches us from one of the associations to which it was sent:

YOUNG MEN'S LIBRARY ASSOCIATION,
ATLANTA, Ga., May 22, 1878.

At the regular monthly meeting for May of the officers and directors of this Association, it was

"Resolved, That this Association extend an invitation to all of the Library Associations of the Southern States to send delegates to a convention of library officers and directors, to be held in Atlanta, Ga., Wednesday, June 19, 1878. Said convention to be held for the purpose of devising some system whereby the various libraries can be supplied more cheaply with books, newspapers, periodicals and library supplies; and also for having more united action in the matter of procuring eminent lecturers for such of the associations as desire the same; and for procuring legislation, State and National, in aid of libraries as a means of public education; and for such other and further purposes in aid of the cause of said associations as may come before the convention. Each association is requested to send its delegates from among its officers and directors."

We, the undersigned, have been appointed a committee on the part of this Association to make arrangements and extend invitations to similar associations for said convention.

We earnestly invite your association to send delegates, and meet in convention with us at the time named.

Please notify us of your decision.

We are yours, very respectfully,
HENRY HILLVER, D. M. BAIN,
JULIUS L. BROWN, H. C. GLENN,
B. H. HILL, JR.

This call, apparently issued in ignorance of the scope of the work of the American Library Association, was withdrawn in a circular sent out by the same committee under date of June 13th, as follows:

"The call recently issued by our Association for a convention of officers of Library Associations of the south not having met with general favor, we were instructed, at a meeting of our Directors, held last evening, to withdraw the call."

It is to be hoped that this agitation will result in a more general representation of Southern libraries in the Association and at future conferences.

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS SITE.

THE future of the Library of Congress is so important to all interested in library progress, that we make no apology for inserting in full the report of the Commission, for an advance copy of which we are indebted to Mr. A. R. Spofford. The Commission consists of Senators Howe and Dawes, Representatives S. S. Cox and Cook, and Librarian Spofford. Mr. Howe presented the report to the Senate June 11th, and it will be printed as Senate Report No. 496.

The commission named in the act to constitute a commission to consider and report a plan for providing enlarged accommodations for the Library of Congress, approved April 3, 1878, submit the following report.

It has been found impossible to select a plan of enlarging the accommodations for the Library of Congress which would be satisfactory to every member of the commission. That herewith submitted is preferred by a majority of the commission only. If a majority of the two Houses shall approve it, or shall approve any substitute for it, the commission will be quite content.

It was earnestly desired to find some method for supplying the needed accommodations within the Capitol building, but after considering several plans suggested for that purpose, the commission unanimously concluded no such plan was practicable.

The Capitol building is universally conceded to be a very fine structure. It has certainly been a costly one. The whole expenditure upon it has been more than thirteen millions. It would be poor economy to deface the Capitol in order to provide for the Library. It is, undoubtedly, practicable to extend the east front of the old Capitol (the centre building) far enough to accommodate the Library for many years; but, in the opinion of the commission, such an extension would greatly impair the architectural effects of the building. In that opinion they are confirmed by the judgments of accomplished architects. Besides, such an extension would encroach so far upon the park on the east as to make it very necessary to acquire additional grounds beyond First Street.

Another objection to this plan is found in the cost of executing it. If the Library is to be provided for in an annex to the Capitol, it must, of course, be of the same style as the Capitol. That is a costly style. Mr. Walter, the former architect of the Capitol, estimates that an exten-

sion of the east front 275 feet would cost four millions of dollars.

Some additional space could be secured by a proper and needed extension of both the east and west fronts of the main building. But all the space which could be supplied by such methods would answer for the accumulations of the library only for a few years, and the utmost of all such space will soon be needed for legislative purposes.

It is, therefore, the unanimous opinion of the commission that the wisest economy requires the present commencement of a new edifice for the Library. Of course, it must be detached from the Capitol, but while detached from it, it was thought desirable to place it as near to the Capitol as practicable.

Several different sites were considered. One member of the commission favored the purchase of the squares between East Capitol and B Streets north, and between First and Second Streets east. To this it was objected that the erection of another large building so near the Capitol, and directly in front of it, would hide the view of what will be its main front, and its best façade from its eastern approaches. A more serious objection, however, was found in the expenditure involved in the purchase of the ground and clearing it. Those squares are assessed for purposes of taxation at \$170,792. Of course, it is impossible to say how much more than the assessed value the government would have to pay for the purchase of them. It is quite safe to say they could not be obtained for less than their assessed value. But the improvements on those squares are assessed at \$139,625. Those buildings must not only be paid for, but must be pulled down and removed. In addition to the cost of removing the buildings on that site, would be the cost of removing about eight feet from the surface of the squares, in order to set the building down on a level with the Capitol. But the purchase of the ground between East Capitol and B Streets on the north would necessitate the purchase of that between East Capitol and B Streets on the south, in order to give an even frontage to the public grounds on the east, making them front on Second Street east instead of on First Street as they now front. The purchase of these squares would double the expenditure, and would make the whole outlay so heavy that it was feared the government would be quite unwilling to make it.

Another member of the commission favored the erection of the Library on the squares west

of South Capitol Street, between A and B Streets south. That locality is commended by the fact that the government now owns about ten thousand square feet within it. The ground which is not owned by the government is held at a comparatively low price. The improvements on it are of little value. It is quite probable \$100,000 would pay for all the territory needed there. The erection of the Library upon it would embellish a vicinage of the Capitol which is now very unsightly, and which promises to remain so unless redeemed by the government itself. But the surface is low and uneven. To lay the foundations and fashion the approaches would require a large expenditure of money, rendering the whole outlay not much less, it is believed, than upon the site first mentioned. Moreover, that locality is supposed to be the home of malarial influences, and so unfavorable to health.

A third site considered is that east of Delaware Avenue and north of B Street north. That locality is sufficiently elevated, and is much more favorable for building than the site last mentioned. But the land is held at a higher price, and the buildings upon it are much more costly than on the south of the Capitol; although in both these respects it has the advantage of the proposed site on the east of the Capitol.

After the commission had concluded its deliberations a fourth site was proposed, comprising the squares on the north side of Pennsylvania Avenue and between First and Third Streets west. That locality is urged because of its proximity to the railways, and because it would improve the surroundings of the Capitol by replacing a cluster of unseemly buildings with one elegant one. But the objection remains that a large building on that site would obscure the west front of the Capitol, as upon the squares first mentioned it would obscure the east front.

But perhaps the most serious objections common to all these proposed sites are first that they require a large outlay of money for the purchase of grounds, while it is believed the government owns the space needed for all its public buildings. Second, that they require a large outlay for the purchase of existing structures to be pulled down and removed. Third, that the selection of either would necessitate the postponement of construction from one to two years, while the title was being secured.

In the opinion, therefore, of a majority of the commission, the best location for the new Library building is on that reservation known as Judiciary Square, bounded by Fourth street on the

east and Fifth Street on the west, and extending from D to G Streets. That reservation is spacious; it is elevated, and the surface is nearly level. It is now the property of the government. There is but one building upon it, and the public taste will soon demand the removal of that, but even while it stands it does not at all interfere with the construction of the Library.

But one objection has been suggested to that locality, and that is its distance from the Capitol. That objection is, however, largely obviated, if not wholly overcome, by two considerations: first, that if a new building is to be erected anywhere, detached from the Capitol, a reference library, comprising from sixty to one hundred thousand volumes, may be retained in the present apartments for the use of Congress; second, any such building may, and in all probability will, be connected with the Capitol by a pneumatic tube and by telegraph-lines, so that any given book, or all the books upon any given subject, may be ordered and delivered at the Capitol quite as speedily as the same can now be procured by messenger from the shelves of the present Library.

It is also fair to remark that what is still called the Library of Congress has already outgrown its original purpose. By the operation of the copyright law, and of an efficient system of exchanges, aided by moderate annual purchases, it is fast assuming the proportions of a national library, and is destined to become the depository of the literary treasures of the world. Year by year it is becoming more and more the resort of the students of literature and science throughout the country. To all such the proposed site will be more convenient than either of the others considered. It is central as to the city. It is convenient to the lines of local travel. One railway traverses two sides of the reservation, another passes within one block of it, and the cars on Pennsylvania Avenue pass within less than two blocks of it. To the members of Congress who order from its stores it is as accessible as the grounds adjacent to Capitol Square. To the rest of the world, whether residents in the city or visitors to it, who cannot send to the Library, but must go to it, Judiciary Square is more accessible than any point nearer the Capitol.

The commission has not attempted to prepare a plan of the building nor to submit estimates of its cost. It is not practicable to prepare a suitable design for such a building until the site for it is determined. It was therefore deemed best to attempt no more at the present session than to

determine the site and to procure an appropriation sufficient to lay the foundations.

There are in the custody of the Librarian twenty-three designs for a library building, furnished by different architects under the act of March 3, 1873. From those plans it is believed a design suitable to the purpose and creditable to the government may be composed for submission to Congress at its next session.

Of course, the cost of the building depends largely upon the style of construction and finish. The estimates submitted with the plans referred to varied from \$950,000 to \$2,500,000, at prices current in 1873. All those estimates contemplated a building 360 feet square and 70 feet in height, to be constructed with marble or granite walls and iron interior.

The commission, therefore, submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the commission recommend an appropriation of \$150,000 to lay the foundation for a new library building on or near the centre of Judiciary Square, to be erected according to a plan to be submitted to and approved by Congress.

We regret to add that this report provoked as much opposition in the Senate, from the advocates of a site nearer the Capitol, that the library item was omitted entirely from the Appropriation bill, and the whole matter is postponed another year.

THE DIANA ENAMORADA OF MONTE-MAYOR.

THE exact date of the publication of the first edition of the *Diana Enamorada* has never been ascertained. The contradictory statements which are to be found in regard to this can be accounted for, it is thought, by discoveries which have been made in cataloguing the Ticknor collection of the Boston Public Library.

The earliest edition was published, without name of printer or date, at Valencia, from the press probably of Juan Mey. The evidence is conclusive that it appeared before 1560. A description of this edition can be found in the *Bibliotheca Grenvilliana* (British Museum),* and in the *Catálogo* of P. Salvá y Mallen,† the latter being accompanied by a fac-simile of the title-page.

While bibliographers have regarded only this

as settled, that it was published before 1560, Mr. Ticknor has made the statement in his *History of Spanish Literature*‡ that his own copy was published at Valencia in 1542, and that he has seen one cited which appeared at Madrid in 1545. These dates have been copied, on Mr. Ticknor's authority, in subsequent works, among them the *Nouvelle Biographie Générale*, and the *Grand Dictionnaire Universel* of Larousse, and it has heretofore seemed impossible to harmonize these conflicting statements.

An examination of Mr. Ticknor's copy shows it to be without doubt the same as those described in the British Museum Catalogue, and in Salvá y Mallen, the title-page corresponding exactly with the fac-simile given in the latter. The collation is the same, with the exception of the second folio of the first signature, which in Mr. Ticknor's copy appears to be missing.

While the fac-simile is without date, in this copy at the foot of the page are found the figures 1542, so faint and discolored, however, as to be nearly illegible. Mr. Ticknor says in a manuscript note: "In cleaning some manuscript words from the bottom of the title-page, the date 1542 was nearly obliterated, but can still be read. It was perfectly plain before. I bought the volume in Madrid in 1818, and the title page was cleaned in 1847."

As no edition of this date is mentioned elsewhere, as the title-pages of these two otherwise exactly agree, and as the printing at the bottom of Mr. Ticknor's copy in close proximity to the defaced date is apparently as distinct as when it first came from the press, it is impossible to escape from the conclusion that at some time previous to 1818 the date 1542 was printed with a pen, or stamped upon the title-page of this copy, and therefore that no such edition exists.

There is no mention, in any work known to the writer, published before Ticknor's history, of the edition cited by him as published at Madrid in 1545. His belief in such an edition was possibly based upon a hasty reading of a note found written on a scrap of paper, pasted into his copy of the *Diana*. This is a quotation from the discussion which took place in regard to the merits of the *Diana* of Montemayor, and its continuations, between the Curate and the Barber as they were burning Don Quixote's library. At the

* ii., 472 of Part 1.

† ii., 167.

‡ iii., 82.

end the transcriber has written the following: "*Jorge Montemayor: Portugues, Musico, y Poeta por los a^{os} 1545 en Madrid.*" This, which means that Montemayor lived at Madrid about 1545, may have been read at a hasty glance as a statement that it was a quotation from an edition of Montemayor's *Diana*, published at Madrid in 1545. J. L. WHITNEY.

LIBRARY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

It was two or three months ago that I prepared the slips of paper headed "Notes and Queries," of which the text and description were given in the May JOURNAL.

A hole was punched near the top and rows of hooks on which to hang the slips were arranged along a conspicuous part of the delivery room. The opportunity of putting questions long unanswered—and everybody has such stored away in his memory—was at once available. Every day several new ones would appear. The answers were written by anybody who could supply one, and sometimes several answers would be given, one below the other, and carried over to the reverse, if necessary. Occasionally I would call the attention of some professor to a query appertaining to his department and he would answer it. The officers of the library staff answered not a few, and I generally preferred to have references given to books rather than to make a direct answer as to the fact, for I have long known how much books of reference fail of all the good which they might accomplish, simply from ignorance of them, or inability to use them intelligently, and I looked to inculcating the habits of consulting such as not the least good to come from the plan.

At times we have had as many as thirty or forty of the slips posted at once. They were constantly changing, and the asker of a question would remove the slip when he found it satisfactorily answered. I have had questions sent from a distance to be put up among them. I have known editors to examine them to make paragraphs for their journals. One of the college papers lately had a story, whose plot turned on the use of them. I have observed that one of the professors, who is occupied at times in tracing the obscure use of words, availed himself of this means of putting questions to any who might help him. The system accordingly has become an established usage here;

and I think other libraries, particularly college libraries, may find it of some assistance to their frequenters, as Mr. Cutter has in the use he has since made of it in the Boston Athenaeum.

JUSTIN WINSOR.

MANILA PAPER IN LIBRARIES.

Future generations will call this the manila age if the present fashion goes on increasing. Mr. Poole gave it notoriety at the first Conference. Since then it has been widely adopted, constantly for new uses. Catalogues, finding lists, reports, bulletins, etc., first, and now it is making its way among the blanks. Perhaps too much importance is given the idea. At least the question of its fitness for any special purpose should be considered before adopting it. Some general facts may help decide this question.

1. Manila is the most durable paper, the best manila rope being almost as tough as light cloth. But for many purposes there is no gain in such durability.

2. Being so hard and firm, printers (if they understand it) decidedly object to it, because it is very severe on type, wearing and breaking it up much faster than common paper. If a library does its own printing or has to pay extra when using manila, this must be considered. Some printers make no difference in charge, and then this objection does not hold.

3. The printing is not quite as pleasing to the eye as on a softer paper. Manila does not allow of so good press work. For some uses this makes little difference.

4. The paper itself is not so pleasant to handle or to the eye as common book paper, which is freer from specks and of a more agreeable tint.

5. For lead pencil writing the manila is excellent. Its rough surface takes the lead more readily than sized paper, and its firmness makes it better than soft book paper.

6. For blanks, call slips, etc., even where durability is no consideration, it is of great importance to have the stiff, card-like quality.

7. Many are mistaken as to the comparative cost. The manila is firm and heavy and there are fewer sheets to a given weight than one at first supposes. Prices must be compared, not by the kilo or pound, but by the cost per 1000 sheets of a given size.

Communications of experience are specially invited on this subject. MELVIL DEWEY.

COMMUNICATIONS.

THE STANDARD OF LIBRARY SERVICE.

LONDON, May 30, 1878.

To the Editor of the Library Journal:

SIR: Being strictly a bookseller's assistant my ideas of library work were certainly meager, until I went carefully over the Report on Libraries issued by the United States Government and more recently a few numbers of the LIBRARY JOURNAL. In no case have I read reports in connection with any profession so full of information and practical suggestions likely to prove beneficial to those anxious to improve. My feelings have been more than usually stirred by Mr. Mullins' article.

Under the circumstances I sympathize with Mr. Mullins, and, I must add, quite agree with him, when he writes: "The increase of free libraries has been much more rapid than the growth of trained officers. This has led to some melancholy appointments. . . . Of course such men as these serve for low salaries, which shock respectable people to hear of, etc." But I entirely disagree with Mr. Mullins in thinking that a "curriculum" or an "examination" will prove a panacea for the double evil complained of. There is not in England a community of more practical business men than those who have chosen Mr. Mullins as Librarian for the Free Public Library of Birmingham, and it is quite sufficient to hint that the question of low salaries may easily be set at rest by the addition to such, from the public purse, of a very few pounds. In proportion as these are augmented will the class of applicants for the post of assistant librarian improve; we do not think that such an advertisement as the following is likely to attract first-class practical assistants, although it would doubtless attract 200 equal to passing an examination.

LIBRARIANS.—WANTED, ASSISTANT in a PUBLIC LIBRARY. Salary, 100/- to 150/-.—Apply to CHIEF LIBRARIAN, Ratcliff place, Birmingham.

A Professor of Bibliography now exists, we understand, in the United States, and we hope that at no very distant day several such may be found in England, but meantime, aye and always, the question remains, How are *trained officers* to be obtained in sufficient numbers to take charge of our rapidly increasing public libraries? I reply, simply through the tact and influence of such gentlemen as Mr. Mullins. May I offer a suggestion in this matter?

Where a librarian has assistants, let him make it part of his duty to educate them spe-

cially in bibliographical literature; it is a mere truism to say that, next to being in possession of information, the knowledge of where to find it is most valuable. The librarian ought also to arrange (of course during the hours most convenient for business) for the assistants attending lectures on English and Foreign literature, and as far as possible to classes for the study of languages; by such means would a body of enthusiastic and practical librarians be educated for the next generation. In stating the case thus we assume, and do not attempt to argue the points,—1st, that the duties of a librarian can only be learned in the library; and 2d, that as a rule it will be found necessary even for the best educated assistants to continue to manhood his studies in literature and languages; indeed, a librarian should never cease his education in such.

Now I can hear chief librarians put the question, Are we to pay young men large salaries and educate them also? By no means. Let me explain how this system is carried out by shrewd, intelligent postmasters in England. The government allows a round sum to postmasters to pay salaries for a certain number of junior clerks, asking no details of payment so long as the work is done satisfactorily; such postmasters engage only active, energetic young men, who are desirous of fitting themselves for high appointments, and who, for the benefits to be derived from good training, serve for unusually small salaries. The net results of such an arrangement are apparent; the postmaster increases his own salary largely, and the best young men in the service are looked for and are continually in demand from such offices.

It is by such a system as this, it appears to me, that librarians' assistants will be improved. Let Mr. Mullins begin by co-operating with his own staff, and very shortly Birmingham will be as famous for its bibliographers as for its politicians.

JUVENIS.

EXCERPTS.

APART from Mr. Cutter's admirable paper on pamphlets, read at Philadelphia, there have been few suggestions in the JOURNAL as to the best way of disposing of pamphlets conveniently. Mr. Northrop's suggestion, quoted on page 124, that in school scholars "should be invited to tell what they have read," is the practice of some of the teachers in Providence. Some of the most efficient co-operators of the library here are teachers in the public schools.

W. E. FOSTER.

BIBLIOGRAPHY.

EDITED BY CHARLES A. CUTTER.

2. RECORD OF RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

a. *Library history, economy, and reports.*

CLINTON, BIGELOW FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF. 4th ann. report. 11 p. appended to 28th ann. rep. of the School Committee, Clinton, 1878, 8°.

Accessions, 782 v.; total, 7627; issues 32,857 (fiction and uv., 74 per cent; public documents, 4 per cent); no losses.

INDIANAPOLIS PUB. LIB. List of books added Jan. 1876-Jan. 1878. Ind., 1878. 87 p. l. O. With a list of 124 periodicals taken in the reading-room.

LAWRENCE FREE PUB. LIB. 6th ann. report, 1877. Lawrence, Mass., 1878. 28 p. O.

Accessions, 1345 v.; total, 15,920; catalogues sold, 75. Has the usual defence of fiction; ending, however, "No doubt there is too much novel-reading among the students in our schools, and the librarian would gladly prevent it were it in his power, but it is not; only parental authority can restrain this tendency."

LONDON INSTITUTION.—JOURNAL. London, Apr. 16, 1878. 16 p. O.

Contains the annual reports. Additions to the ref. lib. about 400 v., to the circ. lib. about 1000 v. "The board have raised the subscription to W. H. Smith & Son to £200, and upwards of 6000 v. are now obtained through it. They have also doubled the subscription to Roland's Foreign Library, increased that to Lewis's Scientific Library, and commenced a subscription to Augener's Musical Library." Additional room is to be obtained by the erection of new buildings at a cost of £13,000. There is an interesting sketch of "The history of annual subscribers," persons who pay £2.2 a year, and are admitted to a part of the privileges of the institution; they seem to have provoked some grumbling on the part of certain of the proprietors, although they bring in a large and increasing income. But the success with which the scheme has been managed, we suppose by the energetic librarian, shows what great aid proprietary libraries may get in this way. "No share is ever sold nowadays at less than 125 per cent premium over the price when annual subscribers were instituted. . . . It is in a great measure due to the additional income brought by the subscriber, and the additional expenditure on the circulating library thus rendered possible, that the proprietor owes the largely increased value of his share."

PLYMOUTH (Eng.) FREE LIBRARY. 1st report. Plymouth, 1878. 32 p. O.

Total, 7,908 v.; issues, 125,059 (from Sep. 28, 1876, to end of 1877); visits to news-rooms (estimated) over 210,000. Percentage of fiction in stock, 17.36; in issues, 46.95.

RAFFAELLE, march. Fil., *bibliot. comunale di Fermo.*

La imparziale e veritiera istoria della unione della Biblioteca Ducale di Urbino alla Vaticana di Roma. Fermo, stab. tip. Bacher, 1877. 8°.

On this see *Archivio stor. ital.*, 1878, p. 204.

SOUTH SHIELDS PUBLIC LIBRARY AND MUSEUM. 4th ann. report. Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 1878. 34 p. O.

Accessions, 1119 v.; total, 12,134; issues, 97,603; visits to news-room over 250,000. Report includes fourth supplement to the catalogue of the circulating department, pp. 23-34.

WESTMINSTER FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY. Ann. report, 1876-7. Westminster, 1878. 20 p. O. Accessions, 648 v.; total, 10,663; issues, 90,475; visits to news-rooms, 135,191.

WILMINGTON INSTITUTE. 21st report, April 1878. Wilm., Del., 1878. 16 p. O.

Accessions by purchase, 385 v. (cost \$686.95), by gift 106; losses, 186; total, 12,341; issues, 28,061.

Amateur librarians.—*Spectator*, May 4. 2½ col.

Urges the formation of private libraries, devotes a column to binding, and proceeds to advocate "the coming catalogue": "Why should there not be the 'Historian's library, the 'Littérateur's library,' the 'Library of science,' and so on, catalogues of really good small libraries, drawn out carefully by librarians, for the assistance of amateurs? . . . That mighty project, the preparation of a universal index of subjects, the record of all that human beings have ever written upon anything, must be left for that scion of the Rothschilds or the Astors who is one day to appear, and who to a fortune of twenty millions is to add burning philanthropy and acute bibliomania. But pending this cosmic book, which when finished will require a library, a librarian, half a dozen interpreters, and an endowment all to itself, could not the librarians give us something very small, a quarto volume, say, of one thousand closely printed pages, a dictionary of subjects with lists of the best books *easily accessible* upon them? . . . The work of such a catalogue, carefully distributed, say, over two hundred and fifty libraries for three years, could not be undeniably heavy, would be of the highest service to investigation, and would, we believe, if attempted, be helped with small grants of money by many of the governments of the world. Of course the very principle of the undertaking would be to exclude the idea of completeness, to give no book not readily accessible, and to omit as far as possible unimportant or technical subjects. It should be something of which the British Museum would speak with contempt, the Bibliothèque Nationale with levity, and all German savans with a sacred horror, but still a useful little work, say, of one thousand quarto pages or so, and called by the humble name of 'The guide to the amateur librarian.' It would sell, O Associate Librarians, it would sell!"

Assyrian libraries.—*National repository*, May. 2 p.

Aus d. *Bibliothek d. Königin Maria von Sachsen.* *Neuer Anzeiger*, Mai. 3½ p.

Eine bibliographische Bibliothek in Wien. *Neuer Anzeiger*, May. 4½ p.

States strongly the difficulties in the way of rearranging a library, and is, therefore, like all such statements, an argument in favor of a *relative* (Dewey or Schwartz) system.

Nothing, however, was farther from the thoughts of the writer. His argument is in brief this: The great libraries of Vienna cannot be rearranged; nor can they be catalogued systematically or by subjects; the work though not impossible would be gigantic; yet it is of the greatest importance to investigators to know what has been written on their subjects; let us then support the bibliographical library that has been established within a year in Vienna and al-

ready possesses some four hundred volumes of bibliographies, library, booksellers', and auction catalogues, indexes, etc. No doubt this bibliographic library can be made to afford much assistance; still we Americans prefer to undertake the "gigantic" task of making catalogues of our libraries.

Die Bibliothek d. Med. Chirurg. Akad. zu St. Petersburg. *Neuer Anzeiger*, May. 2 p.

La bibliothèque de Matthias Corvin. — *Bibliographie belge*, v. 12.

Les bibliothèques publiques aux Etats Unis; par Léon Bourgeois. — *Journal des économistes*, Apr. 18½ p.

"What strikes one especially is the extreme importance which the Americans attach to the diffusion of knowledge of every sort among all classes of society. This people, which we justly regard as one essentially practical, far from being uninterested in the things of the spirit, has never ceased to cultivate them with incomparable power. How many self-styled practical persons in our country still deny the utility of general education. According to them a man who labors with his hands need not know anything more than the routine of his daily work; theory, useful for people of leisure or of a liberal profession, would be useless or even dangerous to the peasant and the workman, for it would make them dreamers, half-taught men. . . . The Americans give us a useful lesson. Their schools, their libraries, their societies of every kind, giving all sorts of instruction, from the most elevated to the most humble, varying their programmes and their catalogues to the utmost degree, in order to catch more directly all classes of citizens, constitute in every State in the union an organism of an extraordinary elasticity and power. The Americans are accused of adoring the Almighty Dollar; they have not less respect for this other power — the Book; and, if we can judge by the views of the library buildings in the report, the temples which they raise to it do not yield to any edifice in extent and magnificence."

Book-keeping. — *Saturday rev.*, May 11. 3 col.

On book-binding. Praised the English for solidity and the French for taste. Deprecates unnecessary re-binding. "The man who would wantonly strip a little Elzevir of the stout vellum jacket in which the Leyden bibliophile sent it out upon the world two centuries and a half ago, for no better reason than that he wants to make it ornamental to his cabinet, that man is capable of giving arms to the Venus of Milo or putting a new nose on the Theseus. A much-needed artist is a conservative book-binder; one learned in all the mysteries and varieties of ancient bindings, who would know how to restore failing hinges to their pristine strength, cure broken backs, deftly renew frayed corners, heal cracked leather, bring back the brightness of faded tooling, — one, in short, by whose skill an old contemporary binding, often as much part and parcel of the book as its title-page, could be preserved and made to do its original duty without any risk to the safety of the volume."

"There seems to be a kind of feeling that if the owner wishes to escape the imputation of stinginess, a book must be whole bound. This is altogether a mistake; it is not a question of economy. Just as a broad, rich, massive frame would be out of keeping on a water color or a photograph, a full binding is misplaced on some mere book of the season, — volume of travels, essays, novel or the like. There should be a perspective in binding."

"With the bookbinders corners of the same leather as the back are a necessity in half-binding, and we have been so broken in by habit to regard them as an essential, that we do perceive how unsightly and clumsy they are, and how they favor the idea that half-binding is only an economical device for saving leather. . . . Perfect protection may be ensured by having the corners fortified by vellum; but the chances are that the binder returns you your volume with half or three-quarters of an inch of vellum exposed, instead of allowing merely the point to show beyond the paper or cloth covering the sides."

Boys' books; by E. P. Seaver. — *Boston d. Advertiser*, May 11. ½ col.

The mother of a boy often reported for neglect of study said that he was getting bewitched with "books called novels" taken from the Public Library. They were such works as "Wenona the giant chief," "The gold hunters of Australia," "The headless horseman," indicating that the poor boy was going through his fever of novel reading as he might go through the measles or the whooping-cough. The writer, however, thinks that such stuff ought to be excluded altogether from a library that is supported at public expense to educate the people. "What is the education that comes from such reading?"

The College librarianship; by H. A. Sawtelle. — *Zion's herald*, Portland, Me., May 15. ½ col.

"Time was when if a college librarian catalogued and placed his books and for half an hour twice a week charged the borrowed volumes and checked the return ones, he had sufficiently discharged his duty. But it has come to be understood that it becomes him to be daily ready to be consulted in relation to any book or subject, to converse freely with the students in regard to their reading, inspiring their literary interest, guiding their taste, bringing to their attention the right kind of appetizing works, and if needful gently leading on the reader from light and tasty books to those of high quality and permanent utility. . . . To us nothing in the life of the college student seems to be of greater importance than just this inspiration and guidance. But all this is time-consuming and requires no small amount of understanding and skill." Enlarges a little on this point to show that the librarianship ought not to be annexed to a professorship, but be itself a professorship; and closes with a warm eulogium on the librarian of Colby University, Prof. Edw. W. Hall.

Design for a free library for Newcastle-upon-Tyne; J. A. Bryson, architect. — *British architect*, Sept. 21. 2 p.

Free public libraries; by J. J. Manley, M. A. — *Social notes*, p. 20 and 46. 4½ col.

"We are not aware of a single instance of a population adjacent to a library not making a fair use of it. . . . Each hour spent by a reader in one of these establishments is an hour spent at least harmlessly, and in an atmosphere free from temptations. The more readers there are at libraries, the less in number will be the frequenters of places where bodily stimulants are but a poor substitute for healthy mental recreation, which in itself is recuperative of the vital powers."

Library theories. — *New era*, April 15. ½ col.

Literature. — *Illinois Courier*, Jacksonville, Jan.

19. An account of a "social meeting held at the library room

last Saturday evening," when "a brisk conversation was kept up for an hour and a half on the topic 'Bookish men vs. practical men';" also of a "book reception at the house of the librarian of the Deaf and Dumb Institution on occasion of the purchase of some 300 new and old books for the library, when the books were displayed and some three dozen guests, mostly teachers and officers of the institution, found the hours only too short. There was no lack of subjects, and the weather, the fashions, and personal gossip, the stock themes at most social gatherings, were for once ignored."

Public libraries abroad; by J. V. F.—*Social notes*, p. 70.

Les romans dans les bibliothèques populaires.—*Bal. de la Soc. Franklin*, May. 3½ p.
An article translated from the *London Times*.

c. *Bibliography*.

CHAVANNE, JOS., KARPF, Alois, and LEMONIER, Franz. *Die Literatur üb. die Polar-Regionen d. Erde*; hrsg. v. d. K. K. Geog. Ges. Wien, 1878. 16 + 335 p. 8°. 6 m.
With an English title also: "The literature of the Polar-Regions." 6617 nos.

CONGREGATIO INDICIS.—Index librorum prohibitorum. Roma, ex typog. polyglot. S. C. de Prop. *Fide*, 1877. 51 + 352 p. 8°.

FREDERICI, K.: *Bibliotheca Orientalis*, 1877. Lond., Trübner; Lpz., Schulze, [1878.] 2 v. 92 p. 8°. 2,50 m.
Second year, 1654 nos.

SPRINGER, J. An extended catalogue of a few books and pamphlets and scattered magazines on the history and mystery of printing; with notes, original, stolen, and selected from the works of intelligent writers. Iowa City, Iowa, 1878. 5 + 48 + 4 p. 8°.

A curious catalogue of a good collection of books on printers, printing, bibliography, etc., creditable to the taste and industry of its owner, who is a working printer. Much pleasant matter and curious information on books, early printers, and practical typography are given in the Appendix. The edition consisted of 75 copies only.—*S. L. Boardman*.

VINET, E. *Bibliographie des beaux-arts* 2e fasc. Paris, Didot, 1878. 8 + 186-328 p. 8°.

Vinet died Feb. 10, so the work is to be continued with his materials. This fasc. contains gen. hist. of art, classical and medieval archaeology. Most of the titles are accompanied with critical notes.

Bibliography of Burns, [424 eds.].—*Book worm*, May. 5½ p.

Bibliography of ceramics.—*Bookseller*, May 3.

M. D. Gilman, Montpelier, Vt., is preparing a bibliography of Vermont, and wants full copies of the title-pages of everything bearing Vermont imprints or written by Vermont authors.

VOL. III., NO. 4.

PSEUDONYMS AND ANONYMS.

EDITED BY JAMES L. WHITNEY.

This department of the JOURNAL will contain the latest discoveries in regard to the authors of anonymous and pseudonymous books. Contributions are invited from all interested in making this list a complete and valuable as possible.

PSEUDONYMS.

Acorn.—James Oakes, for nearly fifty years a Boston merchant, died June 4th, at Arlington, Mass. He is widely known by his contributions to periodical literature, under the pseudonym "Acorn," and for his intimate friendship with Edwin Forrest, the actor, whose Life, by W. R. Alger, Mr. Oakes caused to be written.

T. B..—The author of "A few words on the temperance question, or love of home the best antidote to drunkenness," by T. B. (London, 1877), is Thomas Bates.—*W. E. A. A.*

G..—*Familiar English quotations* (London, Whitaker, 1877). Preface signed G. The author is Mr. L. C. Gent, who twenty-five years ago published a volume of "Familiar Quotations," of which "a more comprehensive edition was issued" about seventeen years ago by Routledge.—*W. E. A. A.*

Don T. B. Leevitt.—*"Life on the Great Hydropathium,"* by Don T. B. Leevitt, of Chickamango, Ohio, U. S. (London, 1877). The author is James Mudie Spence, F.R.G.S., author of the "Land of Bolivia," etc.—*W. E. A. A.*

Gilbert Mortimer.—This is the pseudonym of Montgomery Gibbs, the author of "Six hundred Robinson Crusoes" (London, 1878).

Ojos Morenos.—This is the pseudonym of Mrs. Josephine Russell Clay, author of "What will he say?" and "Only a woman" (Phila., 1873).

W. S. R..—*"Scheme for the establishment of a national theatre (somewhat similar to the 'Comédie Française') by the formation of a national dramatic institute from amongst real and influential patrons of dramatic art and literature, and eminent artistes, earning their livelihood thereby,"* 8vo, pp. 16. This is a pamphlet without date or imprint, issued 1878 for private circulation, by Mr. Walter S. Raleigh, whose initials occur on p. 4.—*W. E. A. A.*

Una.—*"Snatches of song"* (St. Louis, 1874) was written by Mary A. McMullen.

Verax.—The author of "Letters, by Verax" (Manchester, 1878), of which a portion is issued separately, entitled "The crown and the cabinet," is Mr. Henry Dunckley, M.A., formerly

a Baptist minister, and now editor of the *Manchester Examiner and Times*. Mr. Dunckley is the author of other works on politics and political economy. *W. E. A. A.*

ANONYMOUS WORKS.

The Brothers. A Play. (Manchester, 1843.)

This anonymous drama is attributed in the catalogue of the Manchester Free Library Reference Department, 1864 (No. 18,448), to William Linelf; but this is either an error or a misprint. The author was Mr. Thomas Smelt, then, as now, of Manchester, and the writer of several other theatrical pieces.—*W. E. A. A.*

The Bulletin du Bouquiniste fondé par Auguste Aubry (22e Année, No. 485) contains extracts from a work entitled "Anonymes, pseudonyms et supercheries littéraires de la Provence ancienne et moderne," which Robert Reboul has prepared for publication.—*Pelschold's Neuer Anzeiger.*

Letters from Jamaica—(Edinburgh, 1873.) The author is Charles Rampini.

Pictures from the history of Spain, by the author of *Pictures from the history of the Swiss* (Boston, 1860), is by Martha G. Sleeper.

The riches and wealth of the people of Bleaburn (Boston, 1853). Harriet Martineau states in her Autobiography that she wrote this story for *Household Words*, where it was published in 1850. It is attributed to Mrs. Gaskell in the catalogues of the Boston Athenaeum and Boston Public Library.

The girl of the period, published in the *Saturday Review* and reprinted by Redfield (New York, 1869).—The author is Eliza Lynn Linton, who wrote "The true history of Joshua Davidson [i.e., Joshua (Jesus) David's son], Communist," which was published anonymously in the year 1872.

The author of the article on Bibliography in the new edition of Appleton's *American Cyclopaedia*, which was criticised in the proceedings of the Librarians' Convention, was the Rev. W. L. Symonds.—*Leary's Book-worm.*

NOTES.

Who was the author of "Perpetual war the policy of Mr. Madison, by a New England Farmer" (Boston, 1812); and "The diplomatic policy of Mr. Madison unveiled. By a Bostonian, 1812." *W. McL.*

They are attributed in the catalogues of the Boston Athenaeum and Boston Public Library to John Lowell.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

Readers are requested to send in answers or corrections of unsatisfactory answers given to any queries. Suggestions based on actual experience will be specially welcome. Note the worthless as carefully as the valuable, and thus avoid waste of time and money in trying what will be surely and speedily abandoned.

NOTES.

ANNOTATIONS.—All understand the value of such notes as our best libraries are now putting in their lists, but few realize that even a greater comparative result can be secured in small libraries by putting a very few notes in reports or bulletins. A single illustration: A library of 13,000 v., under the special offer (JOURNAL, v. i., p. 329) to furnish the best metric books at half or a "third price, bought six copies of Putnam's Metric System." Some copies stood idle on the shelves. In the next report a line was added after this one title, saying it was the best popular treatise on this important subject, and very interesting. Since that time none of the six copies are to be found in. The prominence of a single note will be pretty sure to create a demand, though, in the midst of hundreds of similar notes, no special influence could be detected.

COLORS IN CATALOGUE CARDS.—W. E. Foster suggests two colors or tints for dictionary catalogue cards, one for author and the other for title entries. Perhaps a third for subject entries could be used. Has any one tried this and with what result? Different colors for different subjects is an old suggestion and has been tried by individuals with considerable success. It is hardly so well adapted to libraries as it multiplies colors so much. Has any library tried it?

GAS AND BINDINGS.—Prof. Wolcott Gibbs is conducting a series of experiments on the upper air of the Bates Hall, Boston Public Library. The results will be awaited with much interest by all troubled with crumbling bindings. Whether the difficulty comes from heat or gas, and what is the remedy, are important questions. We shall give an early report of the results.

RESTRICTION COLOR IN BOOK NUMBERS.—I think I shall have two colors of paper for my Dewey numbers, one for the "not to be taken" books, which are very numerous in our library and (most of them) circulate about as freely as ordinary books. *C. A. C.*

QUERIES.

CONVERSATION ROOM.—Is it desirable to have a room for conversation in a small library?

[Why not shorten this long phrase into "Talk Room?" in answer to the query: 1. Talking must not be allowed in the reading-room. 2. People do want some place where, while waiting for their books, they can talk over the gossip, social or literary, without going out of doors. Where libraries have the reading room separate from the delivery, and allow talking in the latter, both purposes are served by a liberal talk and delivery room in one. If the delivery is in the reading-room, as is sometimes the case, in order that the desk attendant may have an eye on the periodicals and reference books in use by readers, then another room, where readers can retire and talk freely and audibly, is very desirable. A library with plenty of room and means could have all three—reading, delivery and conversation rooms, but most will have two consolidated—the delivery room with one of the others.—M. D.]

PENS AND PENCIL.—How shall I keep pencils where they can be found at once without tying them up? They are knocked off from common pen racks just before I reach for them. If tied with a string they must usually be towed in before they are available. It's a simple question to ask, but simples make or mar the serenity of lady librarians. S.

[We never found anything half so good as the wire rack made of a spiral spring. A pen is held firmly between two coils and is never knocked out of position. It is put in place or removed quicker than in any other rack. You have simply to press it against any part of the spring and it is firmly in place. It is specially good at desks for the public or assistants, and can be put bottom side up beneath counters or in any desired position. It is as cheap as any good rack.—M. D.]

GENERAL NOTES.

UNITED STATES.

JOINT CATALOGUE OF SERIALS.—A plan of cooperation has been agreed upon by which the libraries of Boston and Cambridge will unite in the publication of a catalogue of current serials, taken regularly by the library of Harvard University, including its eight departmental libraries, the Boston Public Library, the Boston Athenaeum, the Boston Medical Library, the Natural History Society, and the

American Academy of Arts and Sciences. This list will embrace everything of a periodic nature—magazines, publications of learned societies, annuals, annals, transactions, proceedings, collections, etc., in all languages—but excluding mere business and other reports of committees and boards connected with political governments. The titles will be arranged in one alphabet, and each will bear against it the initial of the libraries where it can be found. Science in every department will be strongly represented in the combined lists of the special sections of the Harvard Library and the three minor Boston libraries, while general knowledge will be brought out in the Athenaeum, the Public, and the College Library at Cambridge. It is thought that the plan will avail much to the administration of the several libraries, in providing against duplicating in some cases, and in furnishing directions to their patrons, where a wished-for serial may not chance to be in the library where the demand is made.

PHOTOGRAPHS FOR THE BIBLIOTHECAL MUSEUM.—At first thought the average librarian may laugh at the request to contribute his *carte de visite* to a museum, but ours is so different from Barnum's that most will approve the idea. So many consult this collection that it would be an interesting feature if the faces of those known by correspondence and reputation could be looked over together. All librarians and others specially interested in our work are invited to contribute to this collection. The photographs should be mailed to the Secretary, Melvil Dewey, P. O. 260, Boston.

EVANSTON (ILL.) PUBLIC LIBRARY.—This library, with 2,791 books and periodicals, June 1, 1878, boasts for the year preceding a circulation of 14,713, the number of cards, each representing one family, being 968, an increase of about 10 per cent. in each particular over the previous year. Six books were lost. The sale of catalogues, at 15 cents each, returned \$16.95; the price is now reduced to 10 cents. The decrease in the library fund threatens to make it impossible to buy new books; \$400 was expended for that last year.

DR. J. HAMMOND TRUMBULL has been elected President of the Connecticut Historical Society.

THE Historical Society of Delaware on June 1 occupied as their new and permanent quarters the old First Presbyterian Church, Wilmington, in itself a historical monument. The li-

brary may not be of the most modern style, but for such a society the building is eminently suitable.

THE contributions to the Harvard Library Bulletin will not be confined to the officers of the University. The next number will not be issued till October—an interval of four months, mostly vacation period,—when Professor Holden, of the Naval Observatory at Washington, will furnish a Bibliography of the Transits of Mercury.

PROVIDENCE gives another illustration of the fact, now generally recognized, that a free public library does not diminish the use of other libraries in a community. The large use that has been so gratifying to the new public library has come not from diminishing that of other libraries, but from the people whom it was designed to serve.

THE Cornwall Library has issued a little broadside giving a list of books received since January 1st, including the "Valentine collection on country life and country homes," numbering about fifty volumes. It has also published a four page note-size circular for gratuitous distribution, the first page inviting examination of the library and stating advantages and terms; the second giving a tempting list of books from the catalogue; the other two filled with advertising cards which cover the cost of the circular.

GREAT BRITAIN.

LONDON INSTITUTION.—Their Journal for April records progress, which must be most gratifying to the members. The year has been the most successful in their history. A large increase of income from annual subscribers, with the demands made on the institution, makes enlargement necessary, and they propose to build over nearly all the ground facing Eldon street, at a total cost not exceeding £13,000. Work rooms, cloak rooms, lavatories and coffee room are among the good things in store. The value of shares has gone up in two years and a-half from 5 to 20 guineas. We know of no more remarkable instance in proprietary library history. Tickets were issued to annual subscribers at £2 2s. The President reports £648 18s. income from these tickets this year, and says £1000 would have been realized had it not been necessary to stop the sale of tickets for want of room. It is most gratifying to read such a report during these times of depression. It points to the fact that first-class enthusiasm and ability are closely associated with the past three years of

the library, but those who attended the Conference last October did not need this report to teach them this fact.

A NEW literary institution, entitled "The London Athenæum," is to be opened at Suffolk street, Pall Mall, London, on the club system, to provide a central general reference library, with reading, writing, and conversation rooms.

THE new Free Library at Wigan was formally opened last month. The building has been erected at the sole expense of Mr. Thomas Taylor, of Wigan; and the books have been provided with the sum of £12,000, bequeathed by the late Dr. Winnard, of Wigan.

THE Guildhall Library, says the *Academy*, is filling so fast, and is used so much, that already there is talk of the need of doubling it in size and making it still more worthy of the city which owns it. The removal of the Law Courts to the new building in the Strand will, when it takes place, afford at least an opportunity for the full discussion of the matter.

FRANCE.

COMPIEGNE.—The author and classed catalogue of the Library of the Palace has just been entirely re-made by the Conservator, the Marquis de Laincel.

La Semaine des Constructeurs of Sept. 8th, 1877, contains an engraving and description of the Bibliothèque de l' École de Droit à Paris.

GERMANY.

THE libraries of Berlin and Munich have declined to buy the original mss. of Schiller and Goethe's correspondence, which were offered to them for 4000 thalers. To save the collection from being broken up or bought by foreigners, the publishing firm of Cotta in Stuttgart has secured it.

PUBLISHER'S NOTE.

THE index and title of v. 2 will shortly be mailed. The binding of v. 1, at half the usual rate, gave so much satisfaction that the offer is repeated for v. 2 (see v. 2, p. 230 for terms). Copies may be sent to the Boston office, or direct to the Case, Lockwood & Brainard Co., Hartford, Ct., marked "For M. D." All received by July 20th will be bound and returned at once, according to directions. Special lettering can be done at a slight extra charge. The regular binding is lettered—"LIBRARY JOURNAL, Vol. 2, 1877-1878."

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"A story so refreshing and natural, so bright in its humor and so lively in its narrative, that we forget the tedious often associated with such books, and read it with an interest nearly as keen as that with which we followed Tom Brown through his adventures at Rugby and Oxford. Indeed we do not recall any other book which so well deserves to be associated with the Tom Brown stories, or which pictures with anything like the same vivacity and faithfulness the life of the average American student at college. . . . Its fresh, breezy style commend it also to the general story-reading public."—*Boston Journal*.

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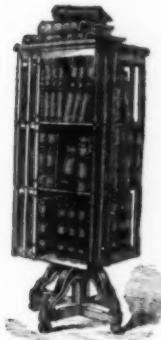
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Enclosure Slip.—Some think the standard catalogue slip too small for their titles and notes, and it is certainly too small for a correspondence card, for notes, memoranda, etc., to be enclosed in common envelopes. As many use such cards a larger standard size, $7\frac{1}{2}$ by $12\frac{1}{2}$ cm. is recommended. This is P. O. card height, and the length of the standard card or the width of a commercial note sheet. These slips may be made by cutting off a standard slip from the top of commercial note, and then halving the 15 by $12\frac{1}{2}$ sheet which remains. These contain just a half more paper, and cost

a half more than the standard cards and slips. Only one-fifth smaller than the large catalogue card, $7\frac{1}{2}$ by 15 cm., they will be preferred by many because they file perfectly readily with P. O. cards. Many minor conveniences result from this agreement in size. Sticking only one end on the face of a P. O. card makes a flap of the slip, and both sides are available for memoranda. This is the best size for printed notices, a part of which go on P. O. cards, so the same type may print both, and the same boxes, drawers, and envelopes are fitted to it. These cards are known as correspondence cards, from their rapidly growing use for short notes to be enclosed in envelopes, either because too long for a single postal card or containing private matter. They are the best size for many of the library blanks and notices, and are furnished in cheaper paper or board for printing. Of the same quality as the standard they cost one half more, or the same price by weight. They are put on the regular list of supplies because of the rapidity with which a large sample lot was bought and the satisfaction expressed with their use. This is the old 3 by 5 inch size, and boxes, drawers, etc., fitted to this size, will be provided. Experience amply confirms the decision of the committee in favor of the 5 by $12\frac{1}{2}$ standard card size. This one half larger catalogue is recommended only for purposes where that cannot be used. Bristol board, \$3 per 1000; ledger paper, \$1.50; fine heavy writing paper, 75 cents, 5, 10, 15 and 20% discount from these prices on 5, 10, 15 and 20 thousand lots.

Catalogue Cards and Slips.—See v. 1, p. 285, for full discussions.

Standard card, $5 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ cm. per 1000, Bristol board, \$2.00; Best Ledger paper, \$1.00; First-class Heavy Writing, paper, 50 cts; 5% discount off lots of 5000, 10% on lots of 10,000, 20% on lots of 20,000. Extra ruling on either side, or perforating for the guard wire, 10 cents per M. Samples by mail, 10 cents.

The Postal size standard card, $7\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ cm., is kept on hand and supplied for one-half advance in price.

The cards $7\frac{1}{2} \times 15$, 80% larger than the standard, \$4 per 1000; same discounts. These can be had in all styles and rulings, but the standard size is so much preferable, as all printed titles, boxes, etc., will be adjusted to it, that few of the $7\frac{1}{2} \times 15$, will be kept on hand. See v. 1, p. 286.

Larger quantities of any cards or other library supplies at special discounts.

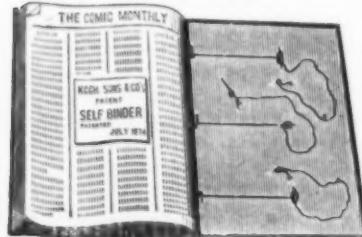
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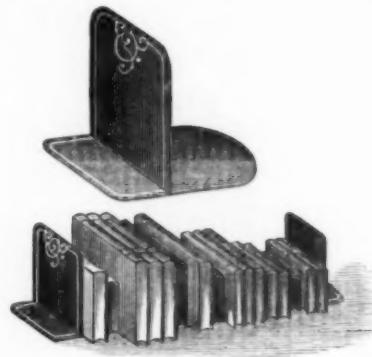
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